assists infrastructural project proposals of the State Governments/UT Administrations for development of tourist places through Central Financial Assistance, in the country under the following schemes:

1. Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits

2. Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development

3. Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects

**Proposals of States for Tourism Sector**

1512. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN:
PROF. M.M. AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals pertaining to the tourism sector received from various State Governments pending with the Central Government, State-wise;

(b) since when they are pending and the specific reasons for their non-clearance; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism assists project proposals of the State Governments/UT Administrations for Central Financial Assistance, in consultation with them based on the *inter se* priority, merit and availability of funds in a particular financial year, as well as provision of detailed project report, detailed cost estimates, land availability etc.

**Development of Tourism in Tsunami Hit States**

1513. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourist traffic has decreased considerably in the Tsunami-hit States;

(b) the number of domestic/foreign tourists who visited the Tsunami-hit States during January-February, 2005 as compared to October—December, 2004;

(c) whether Government have proposed any special plan for development and promotion of tourism in the Tsunami-hit States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) As per the information received from the State Governments/UT Administrations, while in the States/UT of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Lakshadweep there has been marginal decline, in the UT of Andaman & Nicobar there is considerable decline in tourist traffic.

(b) A statement giving the number of domestic/foreign tourists who visited the Tsunami-hit States as received from the states/UTs is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) A number of steps have been taken by States/UTs for devleopment and promotion of tourism in the Tsunami-hit states. Reconstruction of the damaged property, participation in road shows and national/international fairs, publicity in the media to nullify the fear amongst tourists have been taken up in a big way besides organizing meetings with the tourism industry like hoteliers, travel agents, tour operators and other stake holders, etc. to work out strategies for ensuring normalcy with regard to tourist arrivals.

**Statement**

*Domestic and Foreign Tourist Visits to Tsunami Hit States during Oct' 04 to Feb' 05*

| States | Oct' 04 | | Nov' 04 | | Dec' 04 | | Jan' 05 | | Feb' 05 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dom. | For. | Dome. | For. | Dom. | For. | Dom. | For | Dom. | For |
| Pondicherry | 48648 | 2295 | 44279 | 3078 | 46860 | 3683 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Kerala | 516386 | 22160 | 544746 | 38118 | 552730 | 44392 | 511015 | 42652 | NA | NA |
| Lakshadweep | 174 | 42 | 649 | 97 | 620 | 123 | 524 | 101 | 248 | 122 |
| Tamil Nadu | 943468 | 6062 | 928280 | 9043 | 1344329 | 7886 | 911126 | 5736 | 827601 | 8527 |
| A&Nicobar | 8857 | 189 | 9540 | 409 | 11180 | 586 | 1166 | 169 | 1122 | 191 |

**Dom: Domestic**
**For.: Foreign**

**Promotion of Tourism in North Eastern Region**

1514. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes and programmes formulated for promotion and development of tourism in the North Eastern Region; and

(b) the details of funds granted and actually spent on the implementation of tourism proposal projects in the States during the last three years?